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only as I am known to all the other electors of Great Britain, would, in my estimation, greatly enhance the value of so enviable a distinction, and I should proudly exult at being able to enter the House of Commons with such authority for the opinions I have maintained, and the principles on which I have acted, as they would derive from your unsolicited and honourable choice.

After saying this, it is hardly necessary for me to observe, that I am not about immediately to commence a personal canvass for your votes. If my past conduct has in your judgment rendered me worthy the high honour of being your representative, it is unnecessary for me to go about soliciting your suffrages; and if it has not, I know of no ground on which I could presume to make this request; for I have ever found, that those who are most ready with professions, are most tardy in performance. I have the honour to be, Gentlemen, with your great respect, your most obedient and faithful servant,

Lincoln's Inn, Jan. 17. SAMUEL ROMILLY.

To William Hallett, Esq.

SIR,

The expected dissolution of Parliament leads us to express our earnest wishes to have an active independent representative in Parliament, for the County of Berks. We, as independent Freeholders in the neighbourhood of your late residence, well knowing your integrity and abilities for the situation, are induced, by every sense of duty, to request the favour of you to gratify those wishes, by declaring yourself a candidate without delay. In that case, you may be assured of the warm support of,

Sir,

Your very faithful and obedient servants,

| | |
|------------------|------------------|
| James White, | John Lord, |
| F. Heath, | John Stephenson, |
| J. Prince, | Henry Tyler, |
| Richard Perrott, | Thomas Herbert, |
| Richard Wells, | John Wicks. |

Faringdon, December, 1, 1811.

Denford, January, 25, 1812.

GENTLEMEN,

I received an intimation some time ago, that a tender of my services at the next election for the County of Berks, would be agreeable to my friends at Faringdon, and that they wished it—I replied, that I really had not the vanity to suppose I could succeed; and had no doubt there were others better qualified, could they be roused to come forward; besides, having no

private views to gratify, by being in parliament, I had long resolved never to offer myself a candidate either for the county, or for any Borough in it, unless induced by the solicitation of respectable and independent voters.

Your Letter, Gentlemen, was delivered to me last week, at the quarter-sessions at Reading, and its contents naturally led my mind to a reflection on the conduct I pursued during the twenty years that I resided amongst you. It must be remembered by you all, that I was particularly tenacious of my game; that I carried a measure which I know some of you greatly disapproved, and that in my capacity of a Magistrate and Commissioner of Taxes, my neighbours at times thought me rigid; and having in no one instance courted popularity by an obsequious conduct towards any one, and being now too far removed to show you even common attention, I received the expression of your wishes and opinion of my integrity, with pride and satisfaction—such assurances from men, whom I know to be independent in property, and, what is more, in mind, I esteem beyond any distinction that wealth could purchase, or favour confer.

To be sent to Parliament by the voice of a free people, would be the highest gratification that I could receive; and the handsome call you have made upon me, will induce me to comply with your wishes, and offer myself upon the dissolution of Parliament. But as that event may be farther distant than is imagined, any public step taken by me, to ascertain the sense of the county, might excite a premature ferment, and occasion an unnecessary expense to the present members—I therefore do not think it right to be the first person to make a public canvass before the proper period arrives. Men who would do their duty to their country, are often deterred from becoming candidates, by the enormous expenses usually attendant upon election contests. It may answer the purpose of those who look forward to the favour of ministers, and to a participation in the public expenditure, to incur such expenses; but the man who resolves upon every occasion to follow the dictates of his own conscience, and to accept neither place nor pension, takes upon himself a heavy public duty, and ought not to pay for it. I shall stand upon the latter ground—if I succeed, I will do my duty, and will never accept either place or pension, or any favour that shall

add one shilling to the taxes of the country—and therefore I am desirous of being very explicit with you upon the subject of expenses. My fortunes, Gentlemen, were handed down to me by my grandfather, who at the beginning of the last century, restored by honest, and I may almost say, unprecedented efforts of industry, a family which his older brother had reduced by extravagance.—A little reflection here, and on the future welfare of my children, determines me, as I think it would every feeling man, not to cramp my own independence, nor make any great sacrifices of a property acquired by hard labour, in the pursuit of an object of ambition.—What Mr. Wilkes said of the Freeholders of Middlesex, has general application,—“that those who were really disposed to support him, would ride upon broomsticks to the place of election; but that all the carriages in the world would not convey those who were adverse.”

My political sentiments have been often misrepresented; but you, Gentlemen, who know me best, know that I am only an enemy to peculation and abuses—I revere the British constitution, and look up to it as the security for the great stake I have in the country; and my efforts will always be directed to strengthen and support it, and repair every inroad and encroachment upon the rights and liberties of the people.

In whatever way our endeavours may end, be assured, that no defeat in the pursuit of a seat in Parliament, can obliterate from my mind the agreeable sensations which the flattering expression of your opinion excited, and I shall reflect upon it with pleasure as long as I live.

Believe me to remain, Gentlemen, your faithful friend and servant,

WILLIAM HALLETT.

To Messrs. White, &c. &c.

Faringdon, Berkshire.

JAMAICA.

The Representation and Petition of the House of Assembly of Jamaica, addressed to his Royal Highness the Prince Regent, begins by adverting to the state of the coffee trade. It states, that the exportation of coffee from the colony, which on the average of the four years, ending the 30th of September, 1791, was 1,603,066lbs. had increased in the three years, terminating the 30th September, 1808, to 28,500,000lbs. and upwards, which, at the rate of £6. per cwt. pro-

duced an annual revenue to the cultivators of £1,700,000. This prosperity was, however, of short duration, and in consequence of the French Continental system, and the shutting of the European markets, the proprietors of coffee plantations were reduced to the greatest distress and misery.—The produce of their plantations became of no value, either to sell, barter, or pledge, and by compelling it to be sent to Great Britain, incurring thereby a new debt for freight and mercantile charges, the ruin was still further increased, the accumulation of coffee being such, that there is no hope that the proceeds will ultimately relieve the proprietor. The representation then proceeds to advert to the means of extending the home market for coffee, and suggests the taking off the duty of excise, and imposing only a small custom; it also suggests the supplying with coffee the army, navy, prisoners of war, and all who receive rations from government, the continuance of the existing duties on coffee from the conquered and foreign colonies, and the imposing a high protecting duty, if not a prohibition, on the production of St. Domingo.

The distresses of the island are not, however, it is stated, confined to the coffee-planters, the growers of cotton, pimento, and the minor staples, are suffering severely from their depreciation.

The sugar planters, however, it is observed, call more especially for the protection and interference of his Royal Highness, as, if they are overwhelmed, all other classes of the inhabitants must share in their fate. On this part of the subject, it is stated, that from the year 1799 there has been a progressive diminution in the actual money price of sugar; while that of all articles employed in carrying on the plantations has regularly increased. The cost of raising the sugar, after applying the value of the rum, and excluding any allowance whatever for keeping up the capital, is stated at

£1. 1s. 6d. per cwt.

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